



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, TEXAS**

Children Over the Age 21 (Full-Time Students)

Reference [AFI 36-3026 IP](#), June 17, 2009, Chapter 4 & Attachment 5.

This information pertains to an unmarried child who has not attained the age of 21 or has not attained the age of 23; is enrolled in a full-time course of study at an institution of higher learning approved by the administering Secretary, and is or was at the time of the member's or former member's death, in fact dependent on the member or former member for over one-half of the child's support.

Institution of Higher Learning - A college, university, or similar institution, including a technical or business school, offering post-secondary-level academic instruction that leads to an associate or higher degree, if the school is empowered by the appropriate State education authority under State law to grant an associated or higher degree. When there is no State law to authorize the granting of a degree, the school may be recognized as an institution of higher learning, if it is accredited for degree programs by a recognized accrediting agency. The term also includes a hospital offering educational programs at the post-secondary level regardless of whether the hospital grants a post-secondary degree. The term also includes an educational institution that is not located in a State that offers a course leading to a standard college degree or equivalent, and is recognized as such by the Secretary of Education (or comparable official) of the country, or other jurisdiction in which the institution is located. Sponsor will present a letter of acceptance of enrollment signed by an authorized officer of the college or university; or most colleges and universities contract with third parties, National Student Clearinghouse, to verify student enrollment. These third parties must comply with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act regulations and are considered official agents of the institution for that purpose. Such documentation (including web application forms) shall be accepted in lieu of a letter from the registrar's office. Require English translation when foreign documents are presented. All full-time students require presentation of photo ID.

Sponsor certification - The military sponsor must initiate the process by signing the [DD Form 1172-2](#) (formerly DD Form 1172, *Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card--DEERS Enrollment*). Sponsor's certification is based on the support requirement (over 50% support) on the [DD Form 1172-2](#), block 21 according to procedures listed in [AFI 36-3026](#), Chapter 4. Note: Students enrolled less than full time in two institutions of higher learning may not combine hours to qualify as full time student.